

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

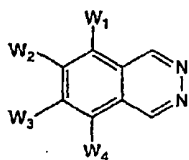
1. A photothermographic material comprising a substrate and a composition disposed thereon, wherein:

the composition comprises a photosensitive silver halide, a non-photosensitive organic silver salt, a reducing agent for thermal development and a binder; wherein

each of organic compounds comprised in an amount of approximately 0.05 g/m² or more in the composition has a volatilization remaining ratio of 50% or more at 160°C.

2. A photothermographic material according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the organic compounds is represented by the following general formula (I):

General formula (I)

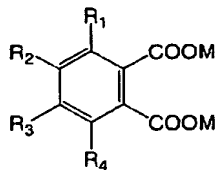


wherein each of W₁ to W₄ independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent substituent, and at least one of W₁ to W₄ is a monovalent substituent.

3. A photothermographic material according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the organic compounds is represented

by the following general formula (II):

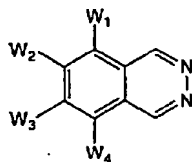
General formula (II)



wherein each of R₁ to R₄ independently represent a hydrogen atom or a monovalent substituent, and when three out of R₁ to R₄ are hydrogen atoms, a remaining monovalent substituent is a group other than a methyl group; and M represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an alkali earth metal, an ammonium group, or a phosphonium group.

4. A photothermographic material according to claim 1, which comprises at least one compound selected from the compounds represented by the following general formula (I) and at least one compound selected from the compounds represented by the following general formula (II):

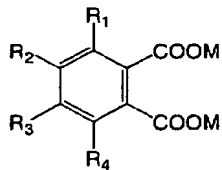
General formula (I)



wherein each of W₁ to W₄ independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent substituent, and at least one of

W_1 to W_4 is a monovalent substituent:

General formula (II)



wherein each of R_1 to R_4 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent substituent, and when three out of R_1 to R_4 are hydrogen atoms, a remaining monovalent substituent is a group other than a methyl group; and M represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an alkali earth metal, an ammonium group, or a phosphonium group.

5. A method for forming an image by heating an exposed photothermographic material using a thermal developing device, wherein

the thermal developing device comprises a filter for collecting volatilized substances, and

the photothermographic material comprises a substrate and a composition disposed thereon, wherein:

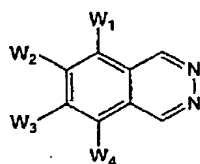
the composition comprises a photosensitive silver halide, a non-photosensitive organic silver salt, a reducing agent for thermal development and a binder; wherein

each of organic compounds comprised in an amount of approximately 0.05 g/m^2 or more in the composition has a

volatilization remaining ratio of 50% or more at 160°C.

6. An image forming method according to claim 5, wherein at least one of the organic compounds is represented by the following general formula (I):

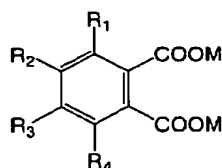
General formula (I)



wherein each of W_1 to W_4 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent substituent, and at least one of W_1 to W_4 is a monovalent substituent.

7. An image forming method according to claim 5, wherein at least one of the organic compounds is represented by the following general formula (II):

General formula (II)

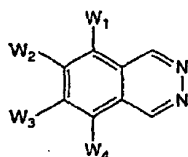


wherein each of R_1 to R_4 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent substituent, and when three out of R_1 to R_4 are hydrogen atoms, a remaining monovalent substituent is a group other than a methyl group; and M

represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an alkali earth metal, an ammonium group, or a phosphonium group.

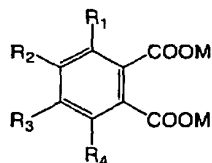
8. An image forming method according to claim 5, wherein the photothermographic material comprises at least one compound selected from the compounds represented by the following general formula (I) and at least one compound selected from the compounds represented by the following general formula (II):

General formula (I)



wherein each of W₁ to W₄ independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent substituent, and at least one of W₁ to W₄ is a monovalent substituent:

General formula (II)



wherein each of R₁ to R₄ independently represents a hydrogen atom or a monovalent substituent, and when three out of R₁ to R₄ are hydrogen atoms, a remaining monovalent substituent is a group other than a methyl group; and M represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an alkali earth

metal, an ammonium group, or a phosphonium group.

9. An image forming method according to claim 5, wherein the time for thermal development is in a range of 7 to 15 seconds.